

Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE)  
Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council  
Wednesday, May 18, 2016  
Minutes – Official

The May 18, 2016 meeting of the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Advisory Council was called to order at 1:10 P.M. Members present were: Capt. Stacy Barrett, Ms. Maria Blanco, Ms. Melanie Bronfin, Ms. Contessia Brooks, Dr. Jeanne Burns, Ms. Gina Young Cahee, Ms. Carole Elliot, Mr. James Evans, Ms. Lois Jordan, Ms. Linda Lambert, Ms. Jodi Loar, Ms. Paula Polito, Mr. Anthony Recasner, Ms. Cindy Rushing, Ms. Brenda Sharp, Mr. John Warner Smith, Mr. Kahree Wahid, Chief Dan Wallis, and Ms. Amy Zapata. Ms. Kaffia Arvie, Representative Regina Barrow, Ms. Bonnie Buckelew, Representative Gary Carter, Representative Frank Hoffman, Mr. Albert Mancuso, Ms. Kim Matherne, Senator Blade Morrish, Dr. Roberta Vicari and Ms. Carynn Wiggins were absent. Mr. Bob Lansing served as a proxy for Mr. Alan Young

Representing the Louisiana Department of Education was Jenna Conway.

Public comment was received from Veronica Buckley, Heather Comeaux, Christine Duay, Toni Ledet, and Josie Williams.

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Ms. Cindy Rushing.

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Ms. Loar made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2016 Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council. The Council's response was as follows:

- 1 On motion of Ms. Loar, and seconded by Ms. Jordan, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council approved the minutes of the February 4, 2016 meeting of the Council.

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- 2 The council agreed to take Agenda Item VI "Consideration of an update report from the Special Education and Child Care Assistant Program Work Group" and Agenda item VII "Consideration of revisions to Bulletin 139, *Louisiana Child Care and Development Fund Programs*" out of order, and hear them after Agenda Item III "Approval of the Minutes of February 4, 2016".

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Brenda Sharp provided an update from the Special Education and Child Care Assistance Program Work Group.

3 On motion of Ms. Loar, and seconded by Ms. Smith, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council received the update report on the Special Education and Child Care Assistance Program Work Group.

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Jenna Conway provided a presentation of the proposed revisions to Chapter 1 (*Child Care Assistance Program*) of Bulletin 139, *Louisiana Child Care and Development Fund Programs*.

4 On motion of Mr. Recasner, and seconded by Ms. Loar, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council endorsed the proposed revisions to Chapter 1 (*Child Care Assistance Program*) of Bulletin 139, *Louisiana Child Care and Development Fund Programs* with the recommendation to include the following language within the definition of Special Needs Child Care in §103, “a child care representative is required to participate in IFSP or IEP team.”

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Jenna Conway provided a presentation of the proposed revisions to Chapter 5 (*CCAP Household Eligibility*) of Bulletin 139, *Louisiana Child Care and Development Fund Programs*.

5 On motion of Ms. Bronfin, and seconded by Mr. Recasner, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council endorsed the proposed revisions to Chapter 5 (*CCAP Household Eligibility*) of Bulletin 139, *Louisiana Child Care and Development Fund Programs*.

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Jenna Conway and John Warner Smith provided an update report from the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council Coordinated Enrollment, Coordinated Funding, and Early Childhood Accountability System.

6 On motion of Ms. Loar, and seconded by Mr. Evans, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council received the report on the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council Coordinated Enrollment, Coordinated Funding, and Early Childhood Accountability System.

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Jenna Conway provided a presentation of the proposed revisions to Chapter 1 (*General Provisions*) of Bulletin 140, *Louisiana Early Childhood Care and Education Network*.

7 On motion of Ms. Blanco, and seconded by Mr. Recasner, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council endorsed the proposed revisions to Chapter 1 (*General Provisions*) of Bulletin 140, *Louisiana Early Childhood Care and Education Network*.

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Jenna Conway provided a presentation of the proposed revisions to Chapter 3 (*Early Childhood Care and Education Network*) of Bulletin 140, *Louisiana Early Childhood Care and Education Network*.

- 8 On motion of Ms. Blanco, and seconded by Mr. Smith, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council endorsed the proposed revisions to Chapter 3 (*Early Childhood Care and Education Network*) of Bulletin 140, *Louisiana Early Childhood Care and Education Network*.

A roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Ms. Blanco, Ms. Bronfin, Ms. Jordan, Ms. Loar, Ms. Polito, Mr. Recasner, Ms. Rushing, and Mr. Smith.

Nays: Ms. Brooks, Ms. Cahee, and Mr. Evans.

The motion passed.

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- 9 On motion of Mr. Evans, and seconded by Mr. Smith, a recommendation was made to revise the language “academic approval” to be “approval” within Chapter 3 (*Early Childhood Care and Education Network*) of Bulletin 140.

A roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Ms. Brooks, Ms. Cahee, Mr. Evans, Ms. Loar, and Mr. Smith.

Nays: Ms. Blanco, Ms. Bronfin, Ms. Jordan, Ms. Polito, Mr. Recasner, and Ms. Rushing.

The motion did not pass.

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Jenna Conway provided a presentation on the proposed revisions to Chapter 5 (*Early Childhood Care and Education Accountability System*) of Bulletin 140, *Louisiana Early Childhood Care and Education Network*.

- 10 On motion of Mr. Smith, and seconded by Mr. Recasner, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council endorsed the proposed revisions to Chapter 5 (*Early Childhood Care and Education Accountability System*) Bulletin 140, *Louisiana Early Childhood Care and Education Network* with the following recommendations:

- The Department should provide the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council, and the public, the requirements for reliability of the third party CLASS observers.

- In §503.B.5.c, the language should be revised to reflect the following “shall ~~may~~ notify the observer”.
- There should be the addition of §503.B.5.d, which should read “Observers for the community network with 50% or more of domain level results different by more than one point, and who are therefore disqualified from completing observations for an observation period, must meet the reliability requirements of 80% accuracy with third party contractor scoring or 80% accuracy through annual recertification prior to being permitted to complete observations for the community network.”
- The Department should create a workgroup to study the inclusion of additional metrics in the performance rating calculations and to review Act 3 for revisions, and should include any additional performance rating calculation metrics in §509.D.
- In §511.A, there should be the addition of §511.A.4, which should read, “The number of new children added,” and §511.A.5, which should read, “Percent of slots filled.”
- In Chapter 5, there should be the addition of the following language, “Each year and in collaboration with the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council, the Department shall review the results of the accountability system, including but not limited to the performance of providers on each domain of the CLASS, how the performance profile ratings are calculated, and the observer reliability substitution rates, and recommend policy to BESE for the following school year to improve the system. To develop these recommendations, the department shall work collaboratively with the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council, which will establish a workgroup for this purpose. The department, with assent shown by vote of the Advisory Council, can decide in a given year that no review is needed.”
- In Chapter 5, there should be the addition of the following language, “The department shall conduct an external implementation evaluation of the state’s new system to answer questions about whether the system:
  1. Is based on Performance Ratings that are valid and reliable;
  2. Meaningfully differentiates between levels of program quality; and
  3. Delivers a robust set of quality improvement supports and incentives for improvement, as well as consequences for failure to improve.

The results of the study shall be shared with the ECCE Advisory Council and BESE.
- The Department should explore the opportunity to use video within observations as it leads to improving accuracy of local observations.

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- 11 On motion of Ms. Loar, and seconded by Mr. Evans, the recommendation was made to revise In §509.D to represent the following scale for performance ratings:
1. 5.5-7.0 -- excellent
  2. 4.5-5.49 – proficient
  3. 3.0-4.49 – approaching proficient
  4. 1.0-2.99 – unsatisfactory

A roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Ms. Cahee, Ms. Elliot, Mr. Evans, Ms. Jordan, Ms. Loar and Mr. Smith.

Nays: Ms. Blanco, Ms. Bronfin, Ms. Brooks, Ms. Polito, Mr. Recasner, and Ms. Rushing.

Dr. Jeanne Burns abstained.

The motion did not pass.

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Jenna Conway provided a presentation on the proposed revisions to Chapter 7 (*Coordinated Enrollment*) of Bulletin 140, *Louisiana Early Childhood Care and Education Network*.

12 On motion of Ms. Bronfin, and seconded by Ms. Blanco, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council endorsed the proposed revisions to Chapter 7 (*Coordinated Enrollment*) of Bulletin 140, *Louisiana Early Childhood Care and Education Network*, with the following recommendations:

- In §703.C, the following language should be added “shall include training for providers and parents on the eligibility criteria for different programs, the matching process for the network, and the complaint process for providers and parents.”
- In §703.G, include that any parent or caregiver must be given written notice of the process in outlined in §703.G.2 as well of the complaint process described in §311.A-F., and the appropriate contact information for the Department.
- In §705.E, the language should be revised to reflect the following, “Prior to the start of the ~~2016~~ school year, BESE shall review this Chapter and revise as necessary based on learnings from the ~~2015-2016~~ learning the previous year. A work group of the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council shall be formed to study the effectiveness of the coordinated enrollment process ~~conducted in the learning year~~ and make recommendations to the council and BESE for changes for implementation in ~~2016-2017~~ following school year. This research ~~should~~ may include, ~~but not be limited to,~~ defining key indicators of effectiveness, conducting focus groups of all provider types, reviewing data on the placement of new early childhood seats opened statewide, and reviewing other available information. The department, with assent shown by vote of the Advisory Council, can decide in a given year that no review is needed. “
- In §709.A, there should be the addition of §709.A.7 which should read, “The number of eligible children served in the network by specific program type.”
- In §713.A, include a requirement that programs must be given written notice of the opportunity to request a departmental review of enrollment or funding decisions as well as notice of the complaint process described in §311.A-F., and the appropriate contact information for the Department.

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Jenna Conway provided a presentation on the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council Quarterly Report- Quarter 1.

- 13 On motion of Ms. Bronfin, and seconded by Mr. Smith, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council received the presentation of the Early Childhood Care and Education Quarterly Report.

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- 14 On motion of Mr. Jordan, and seconded by Mr. Recasner, and with no further business to come before the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council, the May 18, 2016 meeting of the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council was adjourned at 6:41 P.M.